

**AGENDA:** May 19, 2009

**CATEGORY:** Items Initiated by Council

**DEPT.:** City Council

**TITLE:** Bay Area Climate Collaborative

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Authorize the Mayor to sign the Bay Area Climate Collaborative (BACC) Charter to join BACC.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Joining the Collaborative has no fiscal impact on the City of Mountain View. It does not commit the City to contribute staff time or spend funds on any of the BACC's goals; BACC members may contribute as much or as little resources to BACC activities as they see fit. A minimal amount of the Environmental Sustainability Coordinator's staff time (estimated at no more than five hours per quarter) would be necessary to monitor BACC activities and assess the costs and benefits of greater participation.

### **BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS**

The Bay Area Climate Collaborative brings regional organizations together to promote energy efficiency, renewable energy and climate change preparedness at the regional, State and Federal levels. The cities of San Francisco, Oakland and San Jose originated the BACC in early 2009 and invited the rest of the Bay Area to join them. By becoming a signatory of the Bay Area Climate Change Charter, the City of Mountain View can join this leadership effort and express support for a comprehensive, collaborative approach to climate change.

The Bay Area Climate Collaborative consists of members from government, the business community, academia and nonprofit advocacy groups that have signed onto the BACC's Charter (see Attachment 1). Current BACC members include the City of San Jose, the City of San Francisco, the City of Oakland, Santa Clara County, Silicon Valley Leadership Group and Joint Venture:Silicon Valley Network. As a BACC member, the City of Mountain View would have the opportunity to help shape the BACC's agenda; benefit from economies of scale for green procurement, developing community outreach materials and staff training; share data; and gain access to climate change-related Best Practices, grants and public-private funding opportunities. The "Member Benefits" section of the Charter elaborates on these and other benefits of BACC membership. Each BACC member contributes as much or as little staff time as is compatible with its internal goals. Becoming a BACC member by signing the BACC Charter would not obligate the City to commit staff time or funds to the BACC's efforts.

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Additionally, signing the Charter would *not* commit the City of Mountain View to fulfill the specific "Action Area Goals" adopted by San Francisco, Oakland and San Jose in a *separate* agreement known as the Bay Area Climate Change *Compact*. Although the BACC's mission influenced this Compact, BACC membership only requires the adoption of the BACC Charter, *not* the more rigorous Compact.

### **NEXT STEPS**


Following Council approval, City staff would sign and submit the BACC Charter for the City of Mountain View to become a Charter BACC member.

### **CONCLUSION**

With the goal of a healthy, safe and economically competitive Bay Area, the BACC will coordinate resources and expertise to prepare for the effects of climate change and advance renewable energy, sustainable development, resource conservation and the growth of green jobs. Joining the BACC allows the City of Mountain View to participate in an important cooperative effort to provide leadership and make significant gains in the fight against climate change.

**PUBLIC NOTICING**—Agenda posting.

Prepared by:



Margaret Abe-Koga  
Mayor

MAK/OP/8/CAM  
946-05-19-09M-E^

Attachment: 1. Bay Area Climate Charter

## CHARTER

### Preamble

The most wide-ranging and profound environmental challenge facing humanity is climate change. Fossil fuel consumption and related greenhouse gas emissions are putting our ecosystem under great strain. Furthermore, our homeland security and economic stability are threatened by our reliance on unpredictable supplies of hydrocarbon fuels from unstable governments.

The Bay Area faces a variety of unique challenges in taking action to address global warming. Beyond individual organizational goals, there is a profound need for coordinated action to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions by transforming our economy from one based on coal, oil and gas to one that runs on clean, renewable energy at the local, State and Federal levels. The Bay Area Climate Change Collaborative recognizes the need for immediate, coordinated and visionary action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and speed progress toward a sustainable society that is resilient to the effects of climate change.

### Purpose

No one agency, company or organization's actions alone can effectively address the challenge of climate change. We recognize the profound need for cross-sector, regional collaboration to promote energy efficiency, renewable energy and other Best Practices at the regional, State and Federal levels to address the challenge of climate change. The Bay Area Climate Change Collaborative brings together leaders from government, the business community, academia and not-for-profit advocacy groups to address the challenge of climate change across the region to best meet these challenges and sustain our quality of life.

### Vision

Our vision is to enable a healthy, safe and globally competitive Bay Area through collaborative action on climate change. Our coordinated efforts will be a model for regional action in California, the nation and the world.

### Member Benefits

Through collaborative efforts, members can expect to see the following benefits:

- Improved fiscal resource use and staffing allocation reducing duplicative efforts on climate change program development.

- Economies of scale with the development of Bay Area-wide educational, marketing and community information tools, and green procurement and staff training opportunities.
- Improved access to climate change and related Federal grants, public-private financing opportunities and future carbon revenues.
- Improved information and data collection, and sharing and knowledge exchange of Best Practices among all members.
- Promotion of pilot projects and encouragement by the collaborative to expand projects across the Bay Area where appropriate and feasible.
- Selection and development of community and countywide regional sustainability indicators to measure our progress toward meeting our collective targets and goals.

### **Collaborative Objectives<sup>1</sup>**

- Guide and develop, by joint example, actions that reduce the region's greenhouse gas emissions and increase the region's resiliency to the impacts of climate change.<sup>2</sup>
- Proactively create cross-sector, cross-jurisdictional and public-private partnerships across the region in support of implementation of the Bay Area Climate Change Compact.
- Work together to leverage local, State and Federal resources to implement the Bay Area Climate Change Compact.
- Share information and Best Practices on climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed By: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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<sup>1</sup> Signing on to this Charter does not supersede any powers vested to the signatory.

<sup>2</sup> Action area goals and targets are time lines and are defined in the attached Bay Area Climate Compact.

# **BAY AREA CLIMATE COLLABORATIVE CHARTER**

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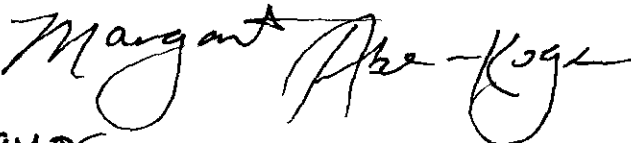
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- Share information and Best Practices on climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Signature: 

Title: Mayor

Organization Name: City of Mountain View, CA

Date: 6/1/09

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